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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

ASANO, Tsuyoshi

Group Art Unit: 1732

Serial No.: 09/988,499

Examiner: Jill Lynne Heitbrink

Filed: November 19, 2001

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 8570

FOR: INJECTION MOLDING APPARATUS, INJECTION MOLDING SYSTEM,
PELLET FEEDING UNIT, METHOD FOR INJECTION MOLDING, AND
INJECTION MOLDING PRODUCT

**PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) FOR AN UNINTENTIONALLY
DELAYED DOMESTIC PRIORITY CLAIM**

Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: July 21, 2004

Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner to accept an unintentionally delayed claim to domestic priority for the benefit of a prior-filed application, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3).

1. A claim to domestic priority for the benefit of International Application No. PCT/JP98/05962 (now WO/99/33630 published 7/8/99) was not filed earlier due to an unintentional delay. The entire delay between the date the claim to domestic priority was due under 37 CFR §1.78(a)(2)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional.

2. The reference required by 35 USC §120, for the domestic priority benefit of the prior-filed International Application No. PCT/JP98/05962, is attached.

3. Response or action required:

_____ has been filed.

X is attached.

4. Fee (37 CFR 1.17(t)) - fee \$1330.00.



U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/988,499
Petition dated July 21, 2004
Office Action dated April 21, 2004

5. Payment of fee.
 X Enclosed please find check for \$1330.00
6. Charge Account No. 01-2340 for any additional fee required.

In view of the unintentional delay, the attached reference required by 35 USC §120, and the enclosed fee, it is respectfully requested that this petition be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS, HANSON & BROOKS, LLP

Darren R. Crew

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosure: Copy of WO99/33630 w/English Abstract; Check in the amount of \$1330.00; Amendment After Final Rejection